From the desk of —
MR. & MRS. WILLIAM L. CHUNG

12815 Tamarack Road,
Silver Spring, Md. 20904
February 21, 1972

Dear Mr. Drasnin:

I watched the CBS News Special "Misunderstanding China" produced by you and written by you (also Narrated by Charles Kuralt, the "Road Correspondent of CBS", please say "Hello" for me too) I enjoyed very much indeed.

You can figure out precisely from my name that I am an oriental, to be precise, I am an American-Chinese (a naturalized U.S. citizen of Chinese origin, highly educated by American insititutions in China and here in USA). I am 63 years old now and have worked for US government for decades and retired a year ago.

In some twenty-eight years of thinking on the matter of Chinese and Americans, I have reached the reluctant conclusion that we--American really do not want to know China and its people in the way that we must, if we want to deal with them in the future, either in good term or war.

Your productions show the real background which nobody have ever shown before to emphasize the damages made, the insults sufferred and deep feeling created to the Chinese, regardless, Chinese in Taiwan or mainland, we all knew too well as discribed in the current Newsweek magaine.

I congratulate your "Guts" to put such documentations together and Mr. Kuralt to narrated it.

Many Westerners who are knowledgeable about China, even though they may have been born there or lived there extensively or studied it intensively, remain essentially Westerners in their THINKING and cultural orientation and this necessarily limits their ultimate objectivity and effectiveness. Whatever their expertise, their response is NOT and cannot be that of the oriental or Chinese in particular.

There are many many Chinese-Americans with tremendouse knowledge of China being left out with the blessing or consultations of State Department or White House, instead they work for the so-called "China-expert" or "China-Scholar", as researcher or interpreter, particularily, translator, so that the so-called "China-Expert" could write or talk about China. Anyone who has spent sometime in China, or speaks a little Chinese or reads a little, is "honored" as "China-expert", in fact, he or she is full of "Boloney", we --well-educated American-Chinese know it, but we have never challenge them before.

Once I read in the London Times that if a person has spent a couple of months in China he will write a two-volume 500-pages book about China. One who has spent a couple of years in China will write one volume of 300 pages. But if one has spent 20 or 30 years in China, she or he will keep her or his damned mouth shut and put away the pen. He cannot write one thing about China, because, he or she really does not know them at all. How long we -American public - will learn from such so-called "China-Expert".

I have written to several so-called "China-experts" in Chinese asking them and challenge them. Dr. Schwartz of Harvard, Dr. Whiting of Michigan and Mr. Service of UC, Calif. admitted that they are "Students" of China, not "Expert", but, Barnett, Perkins, Thomson, Jr. Eckstein, Sollenberg and Solomon (now in White House, formerly with Michigan) would not answer.

If you want a good Chinese dinner, you better go to Chinese restaurant, I have not yet eat a classic-Chinese dinner for the past 62 years which was prepared none other than a Chinese cook. I hope you got my point.

There are many many scholars of Chinese-Americans, such as Dr. Hsueh, Chun-tu of Maryland now, Dr. Chih, Yu-ju of Indiana, Dr. Hsia, T.A. UC, Berkely, Calif. Dr. Hu, Kai-yu of Stanford, Dr. So, Kwan-wai of Wisconsin and Dr. Lee, W.K. of Georgetown University of Wash. DC. many, many others. I certainly hope you will, one day, produce a group of Chinese-American China-Experts, all speaking Chinese language and let all those so-called American or Westerner "China-experts" to participate for a debate of China affairs. You will find how stupid those so call Westerner "China-experts" are.

I am U.S. citizen and I have no preference of Mao's China, or Chiang's China or X's China, but, one thing is proud that now American President is visiting Peking and people in USA or all over the world, particularily of Westerners, that CHINESE IS no more "SECOND CLASS RACE" ANYMORE.

Hoping to hear from you soon, I am,

Sincerely yours,

William L. Chung

CBS NEWS
A Division of Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc.
524 West 57 Street
New York, New York 10019
(212) 765-4321

Dear Mr. Chung:

I am very appreciative of your most thoughtful letter and generous remarks regarding the CBS NEWS broadcast, "Misunderstanding China."

It is a broadcast I've been wanting to do for a long time, having studied China and the Chinese language at Harvard many years ago -- before it was "fashionable."

The response to the China broadcast has been most gratifying, but it is the reaction of persons such as yourself that are the most meaningful and the most gratefully received.

I will pass your letter along to Charles Kuralt and the members of my staff. Thank you very much for taking the time and trouble to write and for sharing your thoughts with me.

Sincerely,

Irv Drasnin
Producer

Mr. William L. Chung
12825 Tamarack Road
Silver Spring, Maryland 20904

March 2, 1972